

Tuesdays with Tammy Nevada Libraries Forum
from
Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records
10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
September 22nd, 2020

Attending: Attending: Tammy Westergard, Sulin Jones, Norma Fowler, Bruce Douglass, NSLAPR; Guest speaker – Tony Manfredi, Nevada Arts Council; Diane Baker, Carson City; Carol Lloyd, Churchill County; Joy Gunn, Henderson; Jessica Anderson, Humboldt County; Forrest Lewis, North Las Vegas; Jeff Scott, Joan Dalusung, Washoe County; Cyndi O, Nevada Library Cooperative; Eric Walsh, Great Basin College; Lara Katrina Schott, Sierra Nevada College; Jennifer Heath, UNLV; Kristy Reynolds, UNR; Ron Belbin, WNC; Nancy Schmidt, SCLL; Gail Rappa, Chair, Nevada Arts Council Board.



WHAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING RIGHT NOW



Strengths:

- Libraries are flexible in times of crisis.
- Libraries provide essential services for their communities.
- Libraries partner well with cultural organizations.



Struggles:

- Struggling to maintain services while keeping a safe work environment.
- Finding ways to assist their communities during the COVID19 pandemic and economic downturn.
- Finding the best way to provide services to their communities.



Opportunities

- Being clever, creative, and sustainable during these times creates support among the communities we serve.
- Libraries support cultural and artist outreach into the community.
- Libraries can support artists and art programming by sharing digital services and venues.



Trends

- The arts community has suffered financially during the pandemic.
- Strong support for the arts and art events by the public.
- Libraries have attracted new audiences with online programming and will continue virtual programming and services post-pandemic.

Announcements:

- **No meeting on Tuesday, September 29.**
- Webinars involving customer service and Mental Wellness are posted on our website: <https://nsla.nv.gov/COVID19/10MinuteWellness>
- Virtual National Book Festival, September 25-27th, 2020. Registration is Free: <https://www.nationalbookfestival.com/s/nbf-2020-series-registration/home> Nevada's state pick for the National Book Festival is "Petro and the Flea King", a graphic novel by Las Vegas resident Kenneth Lamug. Meet Kenneth Lamug, September 26th, at <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/live-ga-with-ken-lamug/register>
- Nevada Digital Learning Collaborative Symposium, Saturday, September 26th, 2020, 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Register here: <https://bit.ly/NvDLC-EventSignup-001>
- Tuesday, October 6th - Trevor Dean, Senior Advisor to U.S. Senator Cortez Masto, will be joining us on the call
- READ Nevada Virtual Event Press Conference with Governor Sisolak, October 14th @ 2:00 p.m. Invites have been sent.
- "Resilient Together: Building School and Public Library Partnerships, a 3-week course: October 14, 21, 28, 2020. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/resilient-together-building-school-and-public-library-partnerships-tickets-113371027796> Early Bird Registration extended until September 30, 2020. LSTA CE Scholarships are available for this event.

Guest Speaker: Tony Manfredi, Executive Director of Nevada Arts Council. His background includes 27 years of strategic planning, management, marketing, and fundraising services.

- Nevada Arts Council was established in 1967 to enrich the cultural life of the state by supporting, strengthening, and making excellence in the arts accessible to all Nevadans.
- When the arts are thought about, they are considered as something nice to have, supplemental, but sometimes the value they bring to a community is overlooked. The arts offer critical benefits by providing creativity, innovation, prosperity, and skills.
- Recent public surveys of Nevadans show strong support that the arts give meaning in their lives. The responses reveal high level of attendance at arts and cultural events, museums, and musical performances. Reasons for such strong support include the pleasure the arts give, the sense of community from attending these events, and help in understanding other cultures. Nevadans believe the arts have a positive social impact for diverse audiences and believe that the arts help students perform better academically.
- Nevadans agree that the arts are good for the economy in the areas of tourism as art events drive tourism both for local residents, in state, and out of state visitors to visit communities outside of their area.
- Arts rank second highest among the sectors of Nevada's GDP comparing value added to the Nevada economy. Since COVID19, there are heavy financial losses to tourism and support industries due to cancellation of art events.
- The arts drive innovation by fostering inspiration, empathy, and leadership skills, and employers consider creative ability a primary concern in the hiring process.
- The Nevada Arts Council is one of 56 state and jurisdictional art agencies (SAAS) that work to ensure support for the arts, enliven public spaces, promote health and healing, spark economic growth, drive educational success, foster inclusion and equity, reach all communities, create opportunity for artists, and serve the public.

- Despite cutbacks in funding, the Nevada Arts Council is working to provide art services, art learning, community development, folk life, grants, and public initiatives:
 - Art Services: honors and showcase literary, performing, and visual artists by providing resources and promoting their work.
 - Arts Learning: provides education and opportunities to all Nevada citizens.
 - Community Development: supports nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, public institutions, and government entities and programs that elevate arts and cultural infrastructure and organization capacity.
 - Folk Life: supports arts that are unique to Nevada.
 - Grants: offers grant funding to communities across the state.
 - Public Arts Info/Arts Initiatives: oversees and strengthens the state's cultural infrastructure through local partnerships and public awareness campaigns.
- The Nevada Touring Exhibition Program offers many communities their only chance to see highly curated visual arts exhibits with many libraries as the location housing them.
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Nevada Ready 21 are programs that support the arts. The arts are drivers of success for children in school by developing leadership, imagination, and the 21st century skills of creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking.
- Three grant opportunities available for libraries: Project Grants for Organizations, Arts Learning Project Grants, Arts Learning Express Grants.
- We are looking for more opportunities to partner with libraries particularly in the focus areas of arts education, economic recovery and sustainability, and healthy communities (creative aging).

In response to a question from Tony asking how libraries are doing during the current time:

- Diane Baker replied that Carson City has pivoted towards digital programming for the arts and STEM programs by distributing kits through the community.
- Joan Dalusung added that the Washoe Libraries have had an existing relationship with the Historic Reno Preservation Society for in person programming and were able to pivot to online programming. We have been thrilled to offer general cultural programming online and will be continuing that until May 21st 2021. Any collaboration would be greatly appreciated.

Libraries in the News:

- UNR Libraries: [What to expect when you visit the Libraries this Fall](#)

Check-In:

Joan Dalusung, Washoe County: Hats off to UNR for a great partnership which offers a virtual exploration of a Special Collections and University Archives collection entitled "A Thousand Miles of Desert and Mountains." The eight-week series, aimed at 4th through 7th graders but appropriate for all ages, explores a series of three diaries written by two prospectors as they traveled across Nevada in search of the next big bonanza. The program is hosted by a reader and has guest speakers who select portions of the journals to feature and share each week.

Carol Lloyd, Churchill County: We are still getting back in the swing of things. We are doing curbside and doing library services by appointment which is going well. We continue to do things online and are working with the school district and other organizations to develop after school programming. We also are developing new audiences with our online storytimes and programming. Our online storytime with Jes has become quite popular and we will continue doing them once we get back to normal.

Eric Walsh, GBC: Things are going well. We had a meeting with the vendor that is helping us out with our library services platform for the northern institutions. We have been doing a lot of work over the summer time for the implementation process. It looks like we will be having weekly meetings on migrating patrons to the new library services platform, so we have one-stop shopping for library fun.